IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Atty. Docket No. Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance **ZIMM1180 Applicants** G. Grady McBride Application No. Date Filed 09/684,628 10/06/2000 Title TRANSVERSE CONNECTOR WITH CAM **ACTIVATED ENGAGERS** Group Art Unit Examiner 3773 WOO, Julian Confirmation No.

1875

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

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Stacy Sutton Kerby

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of Claims 70-78, 80-84, 86-98, and 286-293 of United States Patent Application No. 09/684,628. Applicants submit the record as a whole makes evident the reasons for allowance and that there are additional reasons for patentability not enumerated by the Examiner. While Applicants agree with the Examiner's reasons for patentability to the extent such reasons are consistent with the record as a whole, Applicants do not acquiesce or agree to any characterization of the claims that place unwarranted limitations or interpretations upon the claims, especially to the extent such limitations or interpretations are inconsistent with the claim language, specification or prior prosecution history in this case.

The Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-3183 of Sprinkle IP Law Group.

Respectfully submitted,

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